

# **Arlington Human Rights Commission Minutes-Final**

Wednesday September 17, 2014

**Members Present:** Christine Carney (Chair), Gary Horowitz, Sharon Grossman, Nick Minton, Sheri Baron, Stacy Davison, Jorge Loayza, Marlissa Briggett, Mel Goldsipe, Ghanda DiFiglia and Nancy Rhoads

**Members Absent:** Douglass Davidoff, Sharon Grossman and Robin Varghese

**Others Present:** Christopher Ellinger, Director, True Story Theater

C. Carney called the meeting to order at 8:05 PM.

**1. Citizen's Open Forum:** Christopher Ellinger the director of the True Story Theater spoke to the Commission about the mission of the True Story Theater and explained ways in which the Commission could become involved with the theater. The True Story Theater is currently collaborating with the Commission on Disabilities and will be presenting a show on Friday, October 17, 2014 at the Arlington Senior Center at 7:30 PM. Several Commissioners will attend the show to get a better sense of how the Commission could be involved.

**2. August Minutes:** The August minutes were accepted with corrections. Three Commissioners abstained.

**3. Correspondence Received:** The Commission received a thank you note from Kelly Bruneau.

**4. Subcommittee Reports:** None

**5. Incidents & Complaints:** None

**6. Town Day :** Town Day was a huge success. Many people visited the AHRC booth, entered the free raffle quiz and many guesses were made for the penny jar. Commissioner Minton did a wonderful job creating a 20 year history of the Commission and all of its accomplishments. A copy will be saved in the archives for future reference. New magnets will be made for next year's Town Day, and Commissioner Carney will follow up with the Diversity Task Group about the "Arlington a Welcoming Community" brochure and with Vita Cohen regarding the Public Accommodations Law brochure for business. The logo will be updated and Commissioner Davison will look into finding a graphic designer.

**7. Meeting with Thompson Elementary Principal:** Commissioner Carney will contact the principal at the Thompson school and set up a time to meet with her along with Commissioner DiFiglia.

**8. "What Makes Me White" Film:** A motion was made and seconded to spend up to \$250.00 to pay the producer to speak at the time the film is shown. Commissioners Carney, Briggett and Goldsipe will work on this event.

**9. Summer Meetings:** A discussion regarding meeting during the summer months resulted in the Commission deciding to continue to meet during the months of July and August and if the need arises the Commission will cancel with notice.

**10. Invitations to Town Officials:** After a discussion it was decided that the Commission will extend an invitation to Town Counsel to discuss the Open Meeting Law, the Transgender Equal Rights Law and Town By-Laws with regards to public accommodations for transgender people at a local level. And the Commission will also invite Rebecca Wolf, the social worker who works with the Arlington Police Department.

**11. Community Updates/Happenings:** A motion was made to offer to provide refreshments up to \$100.00 to the Arlington High School group that will be viewing the video Miss-Representation. Commissioner Briggett will be in touch with that group. The motion was seconded and passed

**12:** The contact list for the Commission will be updated.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM

Submitted by:  
Christine Carney